

**REMARKS**

No new matter has been added. The amendments to the claims address typographical and spelling errors, and improve antecedent basis. The amendments do not affect, or surrender, any scope of any claim as originally filed.

Claims 1-32 and 34-44 are currently pending in the application and are subject to an Election of Species Restriction Requirement. Applicants sincerely apologize for the apparent insufficiency of their prior response.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute a melt-pourable explosive composition that comprises 2,4-dinitroanisole and N-methyl-nitroaniline as the one or more organic binders and ammonium perchlorate as the one or more oxidizer. The species of invention is as set forth in claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8. The claims that read upon this species election include claims 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8.

Applicants consider claims 1, 15, and 40 to be generic and note that upon allowance of a generic claim, claims respectively depending therefrom directed to a non-elected species would also be allowable. In the case of claim 1, this would encompass claims 5, 7, 9-14, and 43; in the case of claim 15, this would encompass claims 16-21, 23, 24, 26-32, and 34-39; in the case of claim 40, this would encompass claims 41, 42 and 44.

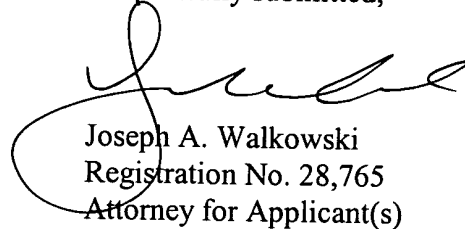
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Serial No. 09/893,337

Applicants respectfully request an action on the merits of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8.

The Applicants also request entry of the amendments as set forth herein and in the Appendices attached hereto prior to examination of the application on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



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